

## REMARKS

Claims 14-21 remain pending in this application. Claims 14 and 17 were amended, and claims 22-25 were canceled, without prejudice. No new matter was introduced as a result of the amendments. Entry of the amendments and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. In light of re-assertion of the *Gorsuch* reference, discussed below, Applicant requests an

Claims 19-25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 14, 15, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Gorsuch* (US Patent 6,151,332). Claims 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Gorsuch* (US Patent 6,151,332). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

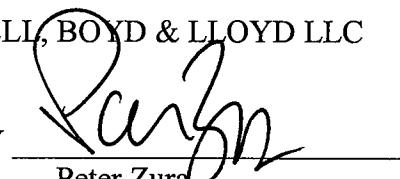
Despite Applicant's strong disagreement with the Office's characterization of the prior art, Applicant has herein amended claims 14 and 17 to include the allowable matter identified in claims 22-23, and 24-25, respectively. The amendments are being presented solely to further prosecution of the application.

In light of the present amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are allowable. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 are traversed and should be withdrawn. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly requested. If any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (112740-113) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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